

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 043192

21

ORIGIN INR-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSM-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 PRS-01 USIA-06 DODE-00 /054 R

DRAFTED BY INR/RNA:AAVACCARO

APPROVED BY INR/RNA:PHSTODDARD

SSM-CWKONTOS

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R 232149Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION SINAI

S E C R E T STATE 043192

E.O. 11652 :XGDS-2

TAGS:EG, IS, PINR

SUBJECT: INTSUM

NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS

1. ISRAEL. THE ISRAELI CABINET ON FEBRUARY 22 CONFIRMED "WITHOUT OPPOSITION" THAT ISRAEL WILL AUTHORIZE THE US TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENTS TO END THE STATE OF BELLIGERENCY WITH EGYPT, SYRIA, AND JORDAN. A JERUSALEM RADIO BROADCAST NOTED THAT "ISRAEL'S DECLARED POSITION IS A READINESS TO CONCEDE TERRITORIES IN RETURN FOR POLITICAL SETTLEMENTS." PRIME MINISTER RABIN REITERATED THAT ANY TERRITORIAL CONCESSION TO JORDAN WILL BE DECIDED BY ELECTIONS.

2. ISRAEL REPORTEDLY HAS TWO NEW AEROSPACE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS--A FIGHTER AIRCRAFT AND AN AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILE--IN THE DESIGN STAGE. BOTH PROJECTS ARE MORE SOPHISTICATED THAN ANY PREVIOUSLY UNDERTAKEN AND WILL REQUIRE HEAVY RELIANCE ON FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY AND ASSISTANCE TO BE SUCCESSFUL.

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PAGE 02 STATE 043192

THE NEW AIRCRAFT, PRESUMABLY WITH A PRATT AND WHITNEY

US F-100 ENGINE YET TO BE NEGOTIATED WITH GE, IS SEEN  
AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE KFIR JET FIGHTER SOMETIME

BEFORE 1985. TARGET DATE FOR THE NEW CRUISE MISSILE,  
TO BE LAUNCHED BY A SOLID PROPELLANT MOTOR AND FLOWN  
TO ITS OBJECTIVE WITH A TURBOJET ENGINE, IS 1983-84.

3. EGYPT. US OFFICIALS INCAIR; REPORT THAT THE  
EGYPTIAN WAR MINISTRY IS EXPERIMENTING WITH A NEW  
MOBILIZATION SYSTEM THAT IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN TRIED  
TWICE WITH HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL RESULTS. IT IS REFERRED  
TO AS THE "SWEDISH SYSTEM," PRESUMABLY BECAUSE IT  
WAS PATTERNED AFTER SWEDEN'S PLAN OF NO STANDING  
TACTICAL UNITS DURING ,EACETIM:. FACTORS IN CONSI-  
DERING ADOPTION OF A NEW SYSTEM INCLUDE RISING DEFENSE  
EXPENDITURES AND A PREFERENCE TO USE LIMITED FUNDS  
FOR MODERNIZING EQUIPMENT.

4. THE US DEFENSE ATTACHE IN CAIRO REPORTS THAT EGYPT  
MAY HAVE SIGNED A CONTRACT WITH ROLLS ROYCE TO  
OVERHAUL MIG-17 AND MIG-21 AIRCRAFT ENGINES. THE  
WORK WOULD BE CONDUCTED IN EGYPT, PRESUMABLY AT THE  
HELWAN AIRCRAFT PLANT ABOUT 15 MILES SOUTH OF CAIRO.  
ALTHOUGH EGYPT HAD BEEN RUMORED FOR SOME TIME TO  
BE SEEKING HELP FOR BOTH SPARE PARTS AND MAINTAINING  
ITS SOVIET AIRCRAFT, ITS CHOICE OF ROLLS ROYCE WAS  
UNDOUBTEDLY PROMPTED BY MOSCOW'S DECISION IN JANUARY  
TO CANCEL EGYPT'S MIG ENGINE OVERHAUL PROGRAM IN THE  
USSR. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, AEROSPACE INDUSTRY, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE043192  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** AAVACCARO  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X2  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760068-0634  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN INR  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** NOFORN  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTSUM NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS  
**TAGS:** PINR, PFOR, MPOL, IS  
**To:** SINAI  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006